

THE PROSPECTOR



Vol. 9, No. 11

Serving the Corps for 75 Years
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

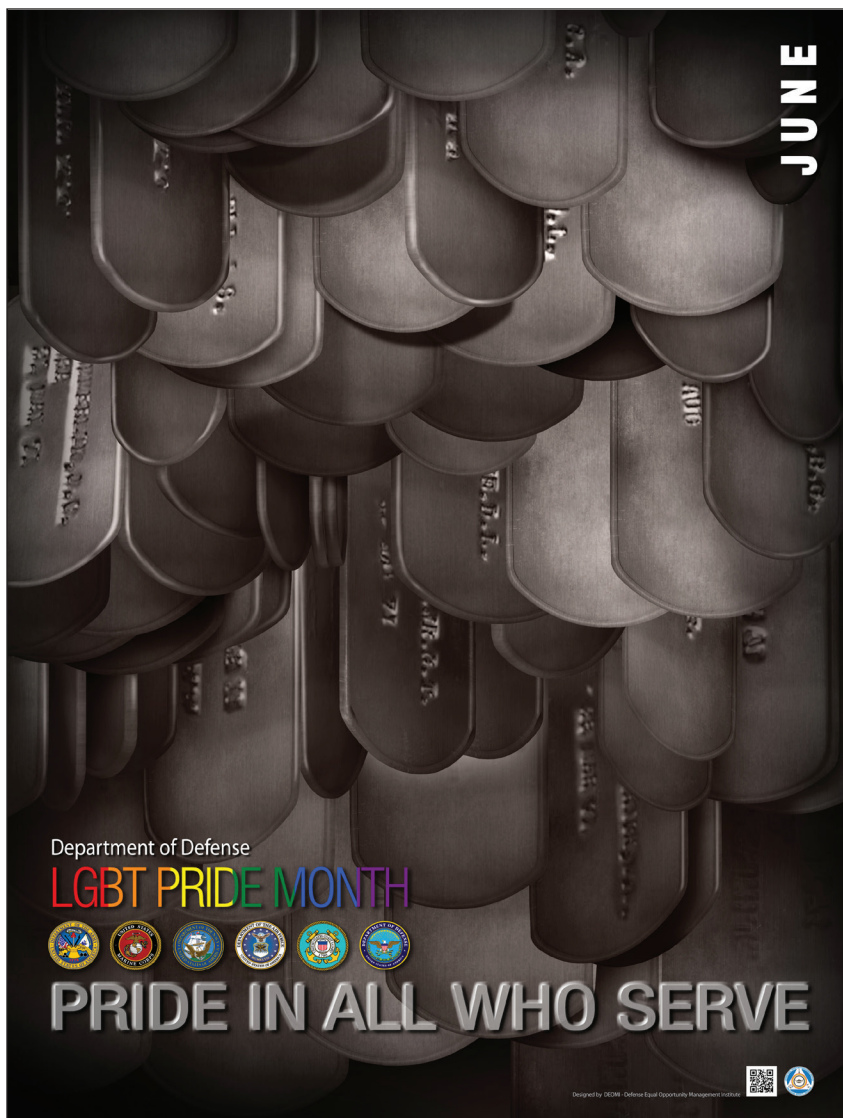
June 11, 2020

HQCO Half Marathon

Ka Tsu on base

SES on the move





On The Cover:

Front cover: Staff Sgt. Joseph Clinton

Sergeant Kersey R. Haynes, administrative chief, and Cpl. Cameron D. Newsome, billeting manager, take the Headquarters Company Half Marathon in stride as they pace with each other during the event held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 5. Approximately 50 runners participated in the 13.1 mile event, starting at Building 15, traversing through housing, around the base, then out the back gate all the way to Daggett and back, ending at the Oasis Pool and Water Park.



THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Craig C. Clemans, commanding officer
Sgt. Maj. Edward C. Kretschmer, base sergeant major

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On the web

Links in this publication are interactive in the online version

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow

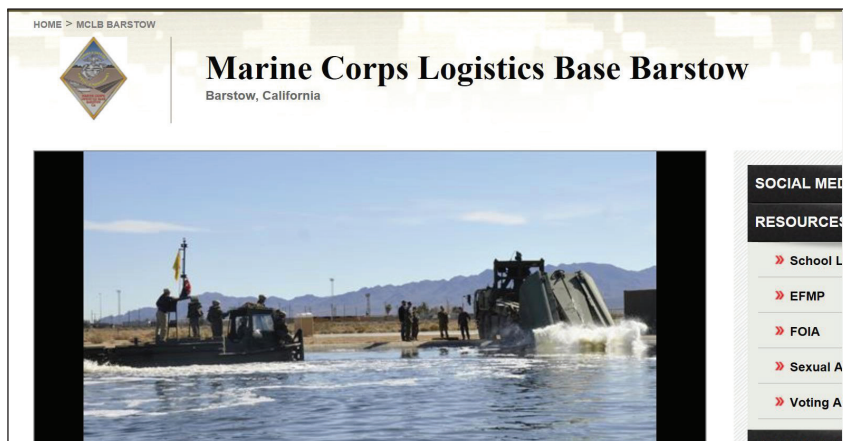




Photo by: Laurie Pearson

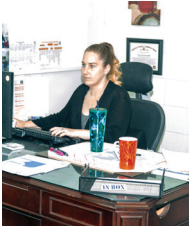
Captain Christian Lara, assistant public works officer, receives the colors as he accepts his role as Headquarters Company commanding officer from Maj. Ernest Robinson, operations officer, during a change of command ceremony held aboard Marine Corps Logistics

Base Barstow, Calif., June 5. Colonel Craig C. Clemans, base commanding officer gave high praise to Maj. Robinson for his job well done in that role and he encouraged Capt. Lara as he embraces the new aspect of his career experience.

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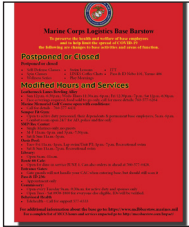
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Information & Briefs

MARADMIN 136/20 HQMC SEMPER FIT SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR 2020 ALL-MARINE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF TEAM

Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) Semper Fit is seeking applications from Marines interested in participating on the 2020 All-Marine Men's and Women's Golf Team. The All-Marine Men's and Women's Golf Team consist of six men and three women and will be selected by trials held at Fort Belvoir, Va. from 6 – 12 September 2020. The team selected from the trial will compete at the Armed Forces Golf Championship 13 – 17 September 2020 at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Interested Marines must submit an online application to HQMC no later than July 27, 2020. The All-Marine online application system can be accessed from www.usmc-mccs.org/services/fitness/all-marine-sports. Marines must create an account before accessing the application system. Applications must contain command endorsement. For any technical issues with the All-Marine online application system please contact the point of contact.

Golfers must have a handicap of 3 or less for men and 20 or less for women. Applications must include a copy of a valid United States Golf Association handicap card and all competitive results from the past two years to be considered.

To participate, Marines are required to have a valid Government Travel Charge Card, and an active Defense Travel System account.

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You Tube



Fighting COVID-19

A message from the DeCA director to our commissary family

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Commissary family, as I cannot be more proud to be part of the Defense Commissary Agency. We serve the greatest customers in the world, helping maintain your quality of life while preserving readiness so you can focus on your mission.

I also want to thank DeCA's 13,000 dedicated employees who are serving you around the world during this pandemic. We will remain an unshakable commissary benefit for you, our valued service members, retirees, family members and new veteran groups as we face this pandemic head-on.

The safety of our customers, our dedicated employees and the military community as a whole, remains DeCA's No. 1 priority during this unprecedented challenge. That's because I think of all of us as family. Family is always a top priority, and we always strive to keep our families safe.

(For the rest of Rear Adm. (Ret.) Robert J. Bianchi's message go to <https://commissaries.com/coronavirus>).

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MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE MARINE CORPS

3 June 2020

Marines and Sailors, last summer, in my planning guidance, I stated there is no place in our Corps for racists – whether their intolerance and prejudice be direct or indirect, intentional or unintentional. As a continuation of that declaration, in April, I addressed the removal of the Confederate battle flag from our bases, and explained my views behind that decision. I wrote, “Anything that divides us, anything that threatens team cohesion, must be addressed head-on.”

Current events are a stark reminder that it is not enough for us to remove symbols that cause division – rather, we also must strive to eliminate division itself. The trust Marines place in one another on a daily basis demands this. Only as a unified force, free from discrimination, racial inequality, and prejudice can

we fully demonstrate our core values, and serve as the elite warfighting organization America requires and expects us to be.

To this end, Sergeant Major Black and I encourage commanders and leaders at all levels to have a conversation with their Marines and Sailors, and ask that in doing so, all actively listen. By listening, we learn, by learning, we change. The path to a more just and equal Marine Corps begins with these conversations.

COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

Headquarters Marine Corps

Email: ontherecord@usmc.mil



EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Examples of discrimination include: racial, ethnic, religious, or gender related jokes; illegal use of electronic mail to send or forward disrespectful or inappropriate comments or material; unequal use of opportunities, promotions, or awards; and reprisals against individuals for reporting discriminatory practices.

Combat Camera, MCCSS, Camp Johnson, NC 150203-M-QR623-001

MCO P5354.1D

Headquarters Company Half

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Joseph Clinton



Photo by: Staff Sgt. Joseph Clinton

Marines, sailors and dependents challenged each other, and themselves to run a half marathon aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 5.

"The intent is to build camaraderie, as well as mental and physical stamina," said Sgt. Maxim Krymov, range operations assistant, training noncommissioned officer assistant, and half marathon event organizer.

"It's 13.1 miles through the base, then off base on a side road where there isn't normally a lot of traffic, so everyone can remain safe.

Throughout the 13.1 miles, volunteers set up stations with water and gatorade to keep the participants hydrated. They also started the event at 6 a.m. in order to complete the half marathon before the hottest part of the day. One of the water stations was located at the halfway point in the town of Daggett, where runners grabbed more fluids and turned around for the second half of the trek.

On the return route, firefighters and paramedics used a fire truck to blast water across the road, soaking those runners who wanted a cooldown. The run ended at the Oasis Pool and Water Park where the top three runners were presented with special framed photos of the famous Tun Tavern where the United States Marine Corps was born, and all participants received certificates, snacks and more water to assist during their recovery.



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Marathon 2020 is big success



Photo by: Rob Jackson



Photo by: Rob Jackson



Photo by: Laurie Pearson



Photo by: Rob Jackson

A Ka-what!?!??

Rare Japanese tracked vehicle housed on MCLB

Compiled and photos by:
Rob Jackson
COMMSTRAT Officer

Anyone that has been assigned to, currently assigned, or works aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow will tell you that it is a very unique installation especially when compared to other Marine Corps Bases.

It is strategically located between two major interstate highways, a major rail spur, airport, and shipping docks. Aside from its location in the Mojave Desert with our friends to the northwest, the National Training Center at Ft. Irwin, and our sister base to the northeast, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, MCLB Barstow is a major storage and industrial facility.

What makes MCLB Barstow really unique is that it is home to the only Japanese Ka-Tsu in existence, a tracked vehicle developed by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries for the Imperial Japanese Navy to give it a ship-to-shore capability similar to

the United States' landing tracked vehicles, according to GlobalSecurity.org.

Introduced in 1944, the 16-ton vehicle could carry up to 40 troops or four tons of cargo, plus a crew of five. Access to the cargo area was via six hatches in the top deck, so it was unable to carry vehicle or large military pieces. It was armed with two pedestal-mounted Type 93

13mm machine guns. Propulsion in the water was via two propellers which gave it a top speed of five knots, or 12 miles per hour.

According to nationalinterest.org, the Type 4 completed testing in March 1944 and was accepted into service. But by then, the



One of only 49 Japanese Type 4 Ka-Tsus ever built, on display at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

IJN was looking to use the Type 4 offensively as it grew clear the Japanese home islands would soon come under attack.

At first Japanese Navy considered using the Type 4 in a kamikaze role similar to it Kaiten manned torpedoes. But eventually, the IJN instead decided to modify the Type 4 to carry two 450 millimeter Type 2 torpedoes mounted atop each side of its boxy hull. The U.S. Navy often anchored ships in shallow island lagoons that would be virtually impossible for Japanese submarines to penetrate. But the Type 4s could simply cross shallow reefs on their tracks.

Five large Japanese 'cruiser' submarines were modified to carry two Ka-Tsus each for a planned raid on U.S. warships anchored at Majuro in the Marshall Islands. Seven smaller submarines would escort the tank-carrying subs into position, and then pick off American carriers as they tried to



One of only 49 Japanese Type 4 Ka-Tsus ever built is on display at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. The Type 4s were never put into operation and were abandoned at Kure, Japan, this is the only one in existence.

Continued on page 11, Ka Tsu

SES moving and growing on base

Story and photos by: Keith Hayes
COMMSTRAT Planner

Marine Corps Logistics Base, California will be receiving additional military police Marines in October to augment the Marine Corps Police Department, according to Capt. Mark Machado, police chief, MCLB Barstow, and that means some changes have to be made with the Security and Emergency Services Division.

“The changes we’re making fall under the Commandant’s Guidance for Law Enforcement Divestment,” said Captain Mark Machado, police chief and provost marshal, Marine Corps Police Department.

“Two Military Police Battalions, one from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and one from Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, are being broken down, or divested, and those Marines are being sent to other bases with the most need,” he explained.

Machado said that means to gain the extra space needed at the police department to handle the influx of Marines, moves had to be made to free up space in building 236.

“Currently, Warehouse 3 is the headquarters and training facility for our Special Response Team,” he said. “Moving those offices into building 236 gives us more cohesion of forces and creates a better communications environment.”

Warehouse 3 can then be used for its original mission of storage, he said.

“Seeing the new Marines at the gate and out on patrol will also create a better impression of what a Marine Corps Base should be,” Machado said.

There were three administrative offices for the Marine Corps Fire and Emergency Services Department in building 236. Those have been moved to the west end of building 196. That space originally contained the offices of the U.S. Navy Regional Officer in Charge of Construction, ROICC.

“Having all of our administrative and other personnel in one building is a very good thing for the Fire Department,” Paul Purdy, fire chief, Marine Corps Fire and Emergency

Services Department said.

“We have much more room for our training missions now, plus room to keep all of our equipment in one place,” he continued.

“The move is only temporary, though, because once building 322 is modified to our specific needs, all of our offices and personnel will be moved there,” Purdy explained.

He said the contract for the modification and build-out of 322 has been awarded and construction begins in the fall of 2021.

“That building has very large bays for our modern fire trucks and equipment and plenty of room for our

administrative offices as well,” he said.

The current fire station located near the Major General James L. Day Conference Center aboard the Nebo Annex of MCLB Barstow, will be demolished.

“That fire station was built decades ago, when fire trucks and other equipment were smaller,” Purdy said. “It’s not big enough for today’s larger equipment. Once building 322 is completed, it will become the fire station for the Nebo base.”

The move of offices also affected the Base Safety Office.



Ruby Adams, base safety administrative assistant, shows off what will eventually be the new Base Safety Office storage room, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 9. The base safety office moved from the former Security Emergency Services headquarters in building 236.



Corporal Jesus Jasso, Marine Corps Police Department, completes reports in his new office at what was once the Base Safety Department aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 9..

VA National Cemeteries resume committal and memorial services previously discontinued by COVID-19 Pandemic

5 June 2020

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemeteries will resume committal services in all but two national cemeteries on June 9, 2020. VA national cemeteries will begin contacting families who were unable to hold a committal service due to the COVID-19 pandemic to arrange memorial services for their loved ones beginning in July.

"VA national cemeteries were able to continue performing our essential mission – to inter Veterans and eligible family members over the last 10 weeks," said Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs Randy Reeves. "We have been eager to resume normal operations and provide committal services and military honors that families have come to expect. We believe we have a robust set of measures in place that will allow us to conduct committal and memorial services while protecting the health and safety of Veterans, their families and our team members who serve them."

VA national cemeteries have remained open for interments and

visitation throughout the pandemic. However, as a matter of health and safety, committal services and military funeral honors were deferred on March 23, 2020.

Families with interments scheduled on or after June 9, 2020, will be offered the option of a committal service at the time of interment. At Calverton and Long Island national cemeteries, that option will be available starting June 22, 2020, provided state and local guidance permit. Military funeral honors, customarily provided by the Department of Defense and volunteer honor guards, will be based on local availability.

VA national cemeteries will continue adherence to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines to prevent the spread of coronavirus by limiting the number of individuals attending committal services, practicing physical distancing between individuals not from the same household, ensuring all attendees and employees wear

face coverings, encouraging frequent use of hand sanitizer, and asking sick individuals to stay home. The number of permitted attendees will vary based on state and local guidelines for gathering sizes provided the facility can accommodate larger groups while maintaining physical distancing. Families may continue to choose direct interment and opt for a memorial service at later date when restrictions have been lifted.

Memorial services for Veterans and eligible family members who were interred without a committal service between March 23, 2020 and June 8, 2020 will commence in July.

For more information, visit the NCA's website, <https://www.cem.va.gov>. Media should contact NCA Public Affairs chief Les' Melnyk at Les.Melnyk@VA.gov. To make burial arrangements at any VA national cemetery, call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at (800) 535-1117.





Ryan Tworek, deputy fire chief, Fire and Emergency Services, indicates where his new office will be located in building 322 once the buildout has been completed sometime 2022, during a tour held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 9. For now, the fire department offices have been moved out of building 236 and into building 196, the former home of the ROICC, regional office in charge of construction.

“We welcome the move,” Ray Aguilar, Base Safety manager, said. “We were in building 236 for

18 years, but the move to the east end of building 196 gives us much more room to provide more training and storage space.”

Currently there is a portable Wet-Bulb Globe Temperature station in front of the new offices of Base Safety.

“A permanent WGBT station is in the works,” Aguilar said. “The WBGT information is important in determining what the ambient temperature is. That reading is then used to tell us what heat flags we post at the front gate of both the Nebo base and Yermo annex of MCLB Barstow.”

The heat flag system is used to inform base personnel how long to spend on outdoor activities in hot weather.

“The move of the SES offices and Base Safety frees up more room, consolidates the police and fire forces, removes an outdated building built in the 1950’s that didn’t meet current mission standards, and brings more personnel aboard to bring our active duty contingent up to just over one hundred Marines,” Lieutenant Colonel Alfredo Romero, executive officer, MCLBB, said. “It’s a win-win situation for everyone concerned.”



Continued from page 8, Ka Tsu

flee the carnage.

Lugging two 1,870-pound torpedoes left the Ka-Tsu unbalance and underpowered however. Moreover, the submarine branch hated the idea, accurately forecasting the Type 4’s engine compartment would flood while the submarine was submerged. Furthermore, trails revealed it took 20 minutes to remove the Type 4’s watertight engine covers and start its engine, during which time the surfaced submarine would be visible to enemy radars and highly vulnerable to attack. The noisy, ponderous and lightly armored swimming tanks would have been sitting ducks to the small PT boats assigned nearby for base security.

So on May 3, 1944, a Combined Fleet notice announced “...it was discovered that the special Type 4 assault boat had performance defects such as noisy engine, low speed, and caterpillar tracks breaking in sediment. It was judged that the May 12



The only existing Japanese Type 4 Ka-Tsu, built in 1944, sits on display aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

operation (Operation Yu-Go) was impossible, and it was postponed.”

The Ka-Tsus which were already built never saw action and were later found abandoned after the war in Kure. Of the approximately 49 Ka-Tsu produced, only one has survived and is located here on MCLB Barstow. You can see

the vehicle near the main gate on display with four other U.S. produced LTVs from the World War II, Korean and Vietnam War eras.

More detailed information on the Ka-Tsu can be found at:

GlobalSecurity.org and <https://nationalinterest.org>.





Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

**To preserve the health and welfare of base employees
and to help limit the spread of COVID-19
the following are changes to base activities and areas of function.**

Postponed or Closed

Postponed or closed

- Self-Defense Classes
- Spin Classes
- Wellness Series
- Swim Lessons
- LINKS Coffee Chats
- Play Mornings
- ITT
- Pass & ID Nebo 101, Yermo 406

Modified Hours and Services

Leatherneck Lanes Bowling Alley

- Sun 12p.m.-6:30p.m.; Weds-Thurs 11:30a.m.-6p.m.; Fri 12:30p.m.-7p.m.; Sat 12p.m.-6:30p.m.
- Face coverings required, food sold to-go only, call for more details: 760-577-6264

Marine Memorial Golf Course open with conditions:

- Call for details - 760-577-6431

Semper Fit Gym:

- Open to active duty personnel, their dependents & permanent base employees, 5a.m.-6p.m.
- Combat room open 24/7 for AD, police and fire only.

SMP/Rec Center:

- Single Marines only, no guests
- M-F 11a.m.-1p.m. and 3p.m.-7:30p.m.
- Sat & Sun 11a.m.-5p.m.

Oasis Pool:

- Tues-Fri 11a.m.-1p.m. Lap swim/Unit PT; 1p.m.-7p.m. Recreational swim
- Sat & Sun 11a.m.-7p.m. Recreational swim

Library:

- Open 8a.m.-11a.m.

Route 66 Cafe:

- Open for dine-in service. Can also orders in ahead at 760-577-6428.

Entrance Gates:

- Gate guards will not handle your CAC when entering base, but should still scan it

Pass & ID 236:

- Appointment only

Commissary:

- Open every Tuesday 9a.m.-9:30a.m. for active duty and spouses only
- Open Tues - Sat 0930-1800 for everyone else eligible. IDs will be verified.

Behavioral Health

- Telehealth - Call for support 577-6533

For additional information about the base go to: <https://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

For a complete list of MCCA hours and services impacted go to: <http://mccsbarstow.com/Impact/>